

## Message Text

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12

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 FEA-02 INT-08

AID-20 NEA-10 DRC-01 /151 W  
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R 161812Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8470

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMA 0400

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, PE

SUBJ: ENERGY - PERU BANS VEHICLE USE TWO DAYS A WEEK

AS PETROLEUM CONSERVATION MEASURE

REF: LIMA 9271, LIMA A-313

1. GOP ISSUED DECREE LAW 20509 JANUARY 16 WHICH ESTABLISHES SYSTEM TO REDUCE CONSUMPTION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS. MOST STRIKING FEATURE IS TWO-DAY A WEEK BAN ON USE OF ALL NON-OFFICIAL CARS AND LIGHT MOTOR VANS (CAMIONETAS) BEGINNING FEBRUARY 1. DRIVERS WILL HAVE CHOICE OF DISTINCTIVE COLORED WINSHIELD STICKERS WHICH WILL AUTHORIZE DRIVING ON EITHER MONDAY-WEDNESDAY, OR TUESDAY-THURSDAY. OTHER DAYS OF WEEK NOT AFFECTED. VIOLATIONS OF DRIVING BAN WILL BE SANCTIONED BY 30-DAY IMPOUNDMENT OF VEHICLE AND FINE, WITH PERMANENT SEIZURE OF VEHICLE ON THIRD OFFENSE.

2. D.L. ALSO CHARGES OFFICE OF PRIME MINISTER WITH SETTING UP REGULATIONS, WITHIN THIRTY DAYS, TO PROMOTE CONTINUOUS WORK-DAY (ABOLISHING CHERISHED LENGTHY MID-DAY BREAK) AS WELL AS STAGGERED HOURS FOR BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ACTIVITIES, REQUIRES MINISTERS OF TRANSPORTATION

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AND COMMUNICATIONS AND INTERIOR TO PROMULGATE REGULATIONS

CONCERNING SPEED LIMITS, TRAFFIC LIGHT SYNCRONIZATION, SUSPENSION OF VEHICULAR SPORTS CONTESTS, AND REGULAR MOTOR CHECKUPS, AND ALSO SUSPENDS MILITARY PARADES AND AIR AND NAVAL DEMONSTRATIONS.

3. OFFICIAL JUSTIFICATION FOR NEW SYSTEM BASED ON FACT PERU STILL REMAINS NET IMPORTER OF PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM DERIVATES WHOSE PRICE INCREASES HAVE CAUSED OUTFLOW OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE. D.L. MENTIONS SPECIFICALLY THAT OBJECTIVE OF GOP IS TO TAKE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT THE ECONOMY BY REDUCING SALE OF SUCH PRODUCTS WITHOUT AFFECTING NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

4. COMMENT: DRIVING BANS AND OTHER MEASURES ANNOUNCED TODAY AFFORD GOP OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE ON ENERGY RESOURCES, WITHOUT RESORTING TO MORE POLITICALLY UNPALETABLE SYSTEM OF RISING GASOLIE PRICES AND/OR RATIONING GASOLINE PRODUCTS. HOW EFFECTIVE BAN WILL BE REMAINS TO BE SEEN SINCE GOP HAS NOT BANNED WEEKEND DRIVING WHICH PRESUMABLY USES CONSIDERABLE GAS FOR "NON-ESSENTIAL" TRAVEL.  
BELCHER

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** ENRG, PE  
**To:** STATE  
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